

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 /075 W

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R 061155Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5546

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, XA

SUBJECT: FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT MEETING

1. FRENCH PRESIDENT VALERIE GISCARD D'ESTAING ARRIVED AT BANGUI
MIDAFTERNOON MARCH 5 TO TUMULTUOUS WELCOME BY TENS OF THOUSANDS
AT AIRPORT AND ALL ALONG FIVE MILE ROUTE TO PRESIDENTIAL PALACE.

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HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION MINISTER ABELIN AND

FIN MINISTER FOURCADE.

2. IN ARRIVAL REMARKS AT THE AIRPORT PRESIDENT BOKASSA HIGHLIGHTED THAT IN GISCARD D'ESTAING'S QUOTE AUGUST PERSON UNQUOTE THE CAR WAS RECEIVING THE FIRST VISIT BY A FRENCH PRESIDENT SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR. PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING RECALLED THAT BANGUI HAD BEEN THE AFRICAN CAPITAL OF THE FREE FRENCH DURING WORLD WAR II. CALLING FRENCH AND AFRICANS QUOTE BROTHERS UNQUOTE, HE SAID THAT BOTH ARE NOW ENGAGED IN A NEW BATTLE TO CREATE A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER MORE JUST AND HUMANE.

3. THE FRANCO/AFRICAN SUMMIT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 6-7 WILL NOW BEGIN MARCH 7 DUE TO EXPECTED LATE ARRIVAL OF SEVERAL KEY CHIEFS OF STATE. FRENCH AND CAR PRESIDENTS ARE THEREFORE SPENDING DAY AT LATTER'S HUNTING LODGE NEAR N'DELE.

4. ALL TOGETHER ABOUT TEN CHIEFS OF STATE ARE NOW EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE. SUMMIT CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE ARRIVED TO DATE INCLUDE: HABYARIMANA (RWANDA); MICOMBERO (BURUNDI); RAMGOOLAM (MAURITIUS), AND MANCHAM (SEYCHELLES. HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY (IVORY COAST AND SENGHOR (SENEGAL ARE EXPECTED ON MARCH 6 AND ON MARCH 7 BONGO OF GABON. IN ADDITION FOLLOWING LOWER-LEVEL PARTICIPANTS HAVE ARRIVED BULA NIATE (ZAIRIAN COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS); EDEM KODJO (TOGO FINMIN); ISIDORE AMOUSSOU (DAHOMAN FINMIN), TIEMOKO MARCH GARANGO (UPPER VOLTAN FINMIN).

5. IN SPEECH AT STATE EVENING OF 3/5 BOKASSA STRESSED NATION'S ECONOMIC NEEDS AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR FRENCH LEADERSHIP IN RAILROAD PROJECT. IN HIS REPLY, PRESIDENT GISCARD ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULT ECONOMIC POSITION OF CAR, INCLUDING NEED FOR BETTER TRANSPORT. IN SPEAKING OF ITS RESOURCES FRENCH PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

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